



# **THE LABOUR FORCE**

**NOVEMBER 1976**

**AUSTRALIAN  
BUREAU OF  
STATISTICS**

**CANBERRA**

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**THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1976****CONTENTS**

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Introduction

This bulletin contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the results of the population survey, which is carried out on a sample basis throughout Australia in February, May, August and November each year.

2. A summary of results is published each quarter, in advance of this more detailed bulletin, in *The Labour Force (Preliminary)* (Reference No. 6.32). The November 1976 statement was issued on 7 January. Preliminary estimates of unemployment are also published in advance of this bulletin in *Unemployment: Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35). The November 1976 estimates were published on 24 December.

3. Although emphasis in the survey is placed on the regular collection, each quarter, of data on the demographic and labour force characteristics of the population, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. Statistics from supplementary surveys are published in bulletins which are available free on request. (See page 20 for a list of titles.)

### The population survey

4. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. Because of special circumstances in November 1975 the sample size for that survey was reduced to one half of one per cent. Information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

### Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force classification used in the surveys conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1954. The labour force category to which a person is

assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week, known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The principal categories of the labour force appearing in the tables in this bulletin are defined in the following paragraphs.

7. **The labour force** comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9.

8. **Employed persons** comprise all those who, during the survey week,

- (a) did any work for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons), or
- (b) worked fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business (or farm), or
- (c) had a job, business or farm, but were not at work because of illness, accident, leave, holiday, production hold-up due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc., or because they were on strike.

A person who had a job but was temporarily laid off by his employer for the whole week without pay is excluded, and is classified in the tables as unemployed. A person who did some work during the week, however, before he either lost his job or was laid off, is classified as employed. A person who held more than one job is counted only once, in the job at which he worked most hours during the survey week.

9. For purposes of the survey, **unemployed persons** are defined as all civilians aged 15 years and over who either:

- (a) during the survey week did not work and did not have a job, but could have taken one had it been available, and had been looking for full-time or part-time work in the four weeks up to and including the survey week (including persons who would have been prevented from taking a job in the survey week by their own temporary illness or injury, or by their having made arrangements to start after the survey week in a new job in which they would have preferred to start in the survey week) or
- (b) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been temporarily stood down without pay for four weeks or less (including the whole of the survey week).

10. **Full-time workers** are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. **Part-time workers** are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

11. **Persons not in the labour force** are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined (see paragraphs 8 and 9 above). This category therefore includes persons without a job, business or farm who were not actively looking for work, and who, during the survey week, were either keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (e.g. school or university), retired or voluntarily inactive, permanently unable to work or inmates of institutions. A person who worked less than fifteen hours without pay in a family business during the survey week is also classified as not in the labour force.

#### Industry classification

12. As from November 1972 industry has been classified according to the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification* (ASIC). Industry estimates for earlier periods were based on the Classification of Industries used at the 1961 and 1966 population censuses and are therefore not directly comparable with those for November 1972 and later periods.

13. During the changeover to the use of ASIC, industry was classified according to both ASIC and the 1966 Population Census Classification for five consecutive surveys (August 1971 to August 1972). An indication of the relationship between the two classifications was given by Tables 8 and 9 in the combined November 1972 and February 1973 issue of this bulletin.

#### Reliability of the estimates

14. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 18.

15. Because of the reduction in the size of the sample in November 1975, the sampling variability of the estimates for that survey was larger than usual. Further details can be found in the Technical Note of the November 1975 issue of this bulletin.

#### Revision of estimates

16. The survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex. As a consequence, when the population estimates are revised it becomes necessary to revise the labour force estimates also.

17. Prior to the May 1975 issue of this bulletin, published estimates were based on population estimates derived from 1966 census results. They are now based on 1971 census population estimates. Revised estimates of the population aged 15 years and over classified by employment status from February 1964 to May 1975 were shown in Table 1 of the May 1975 issue.

18. All labour force estimates for the period from February 1973 have been calculated on the revised basis and are available on request. For the period August 1966 to November 1972 only the principal labour force categories have been revised. Revisions to rates (e.g. labour force participation rates, unemployment rates), percentage distributions (e.g. by industry) and averages (e.g. duration of unemployment, average hours worked) have been negligible.

#### Differences between population census and population survey estimates

19. The results of the 1971 population census, which have been published in a series of bulletins entitled *Summary of Population* (Reference No. 2.83), show that the census labour force estimates differ substantially from the corresponding estimates derived from the population surveys of May and August 1971.

20. The definition of the labour force used in the population census is similar to that used in the survey (see paragraphs 7 to 9). However, evidence from census post-enumeration surveys indicates that the personal interview approach, as used in the quarterly survey, tends to identify a larger number of persons as being in the labour force than does the filling in of the questions on the census schedule by the householder, and that this tendency increased between the 1966 and 1971 censuses.

21. These considerations should be borne in mind if comparisons of the total labour force or of labour force participation rates are made between the 1971 census and the 1971 labour force survey estimates.

#### Estimates for earlier periods

22. Except for Tables 1, 5, 14 and 19, the tables in this bulletin give details only for November 1976. A wider range of detailed estimates for each quarter from February 1964 to November 1975 has been published in bulletins entitled *The Labour Force* (all Reference No. 6.22) covering the period 1964 to 1968 and single years thereafter (except for 1973 and 1974 which were included in the one issue). The estimates appearing in these bulletins for 1973 onwards, unlike the earlier estimates, are based on population benchmarks derived from the 1971 census. Corresponding estimates for 1976 will be published as soon as possible.

### Discontinuity of series

23. The survey periods for February in the years 1971, 1972 and 1974 were later than in other years. For details of the effect on survey estimates see the explanatory notes of the November 1975 and earlier issues of this bulletin. The survey period for February 1976 was deferred by one week. As a result, the number of persons who had returned to schools, universities, etc. by the time of the survey was greater than if the survey had been held at the normal time. The estimates are also affected by other seasonal influences. The exact effect is not known, but it is estimated that the figures for unemployed persons and persons in the labour force were reduced by between 5,000 and 10,000 (both original and seasonally adjusted), and the number of persons not in the labour force was correspondingly increased. The number of employed persons is unlikely to have been affected significantly.

24. At the 1971 population census, trainee teachers (enrolled at government teachers colleges and in some cases enrolled also at other institutions) were for the first time classified as not in the labour force, and since then they have also been excluded from labour force estimates derived from the population survey. Exclusion of these students constitutes a break in the series between May and August 1971, the numbers of males and females excluded from the labour force in August 1971 being approximately 7,000 and 17,000 respectively.

### Seasonally adjusted series

25. Seasonally adjusted figures for selected labour force characteristics are shown in Table 5. Because of problems in seasonally adjusting the numbers of unemployed persons the procedures used were revised as from August 1976. Because there is insufficient length of series available to enable a complete assessment of the reliability of the new method to be made, it would be claiming too much to suggest that these problems have now been wholly overcome, but the revised estimates are at least a considerable improvement over those published previously. A brief explanation of the problems and the adjustment method now used is given below.

26. The method used (the U.S. Bureau of the Census X-11Q) assumes that the amplitude of seasonal change is proportional to the level of the series. Until 1974 this assumption worked very satisfactorily, but following the rapid rise in the level of unemployment in 1974 the proportional relationship appears to have changed very substantially, and the X-11Q method was unable to adapt sufficiently.

27. By considering the series in two parts an estimate of the effect of the change in the proportional relationship has now been made. By means of prior adjustment factors derived from this estimate and applied to the data, the X-11Q program moving averages are now able to accommodate the 1974 change. The resulting seasonal factors reflect one proportional relationship up to 1974 and the other relationship since then.

28. The shape of the seasonal variation since 1974 may have changed as well as the relationship between amplitude and level. (For example, the rise in the original series in August 1976 could be due, at least in part, to a new seasonal pattern). If it has, the change will have to be handled by the adaptive capacity of the program itself.

29. As from the May 1976 issue of this bulletin the unemployment estimates derived from the population survey have been based on a revised definition. See pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 9 to 16 of the May 1976 bulletin for details. Estimates of unemployment on the revised basis have a different seasonal pattern from those on the old basis. Because only five quarterly figures on the revised basis were available at the time the seasonal adjustment factors were calculated it has been necessary to make special estimates for the seasonally adjusted series, based on experience of the movements in the series on the old basis.

### Related Publications

30. Users may wish to refer to the Labour Force publications mentioned in paragraph 2, page 2 and in paragraph 22, page 3. Another publication which may be of interest is the monthly bulletin *Employment and Unemployment* (Reference No. 6.4) which gives estimates of the number of employed wage and salary earners derived from payroll tax returns and Government collections. A list of the publications produced by the ABS is contained in *Publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics* (Reference No. 1.8) and is available free of charge from any office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

### Symbols and other usages

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See page 18, paragraph 7.

† Affected by industrial dispute.

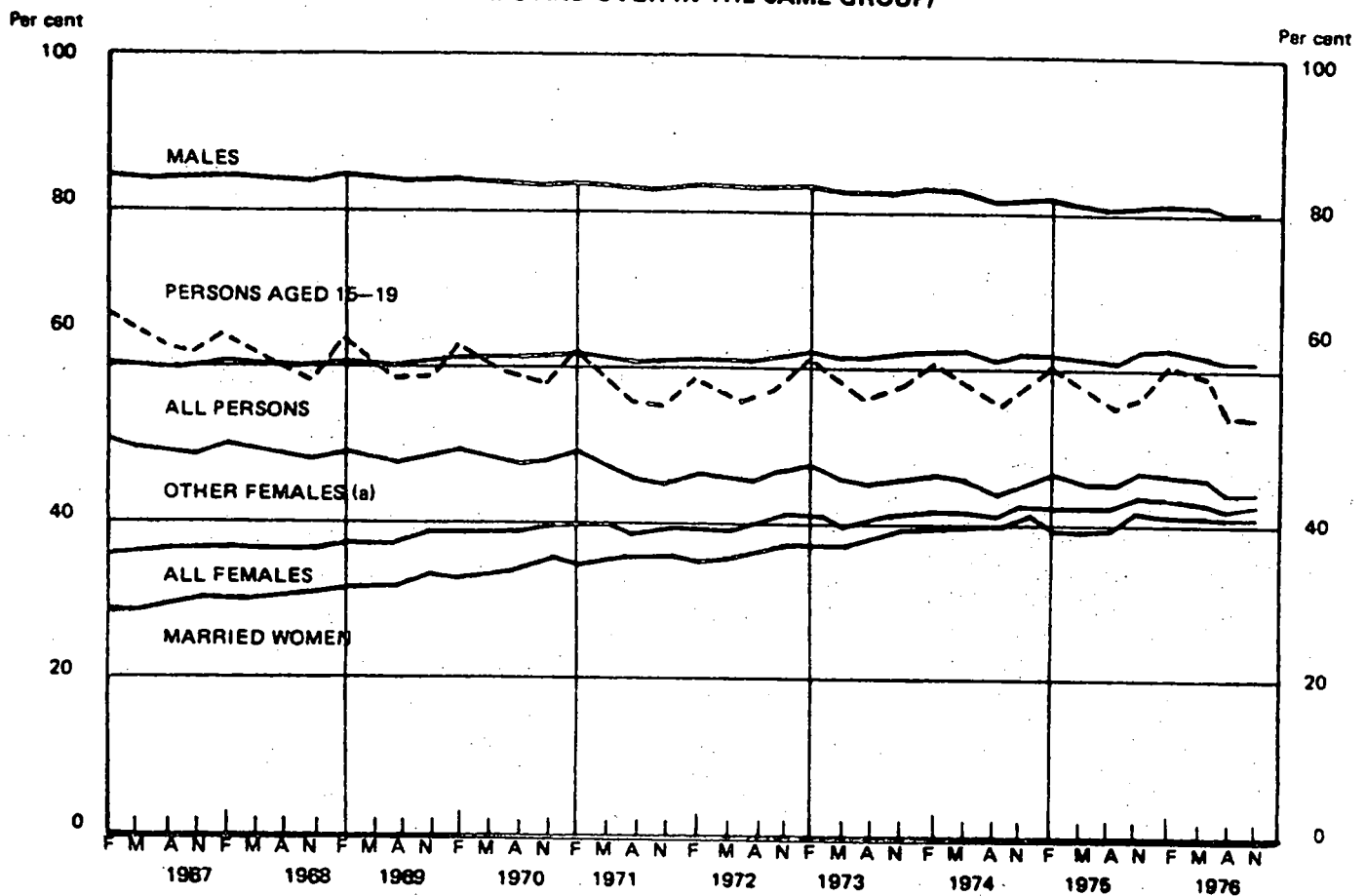
n.a. Not available.

.. Not applicable.

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

## LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN THE SAME GROUP)



## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE IN THE SAME GROUP)

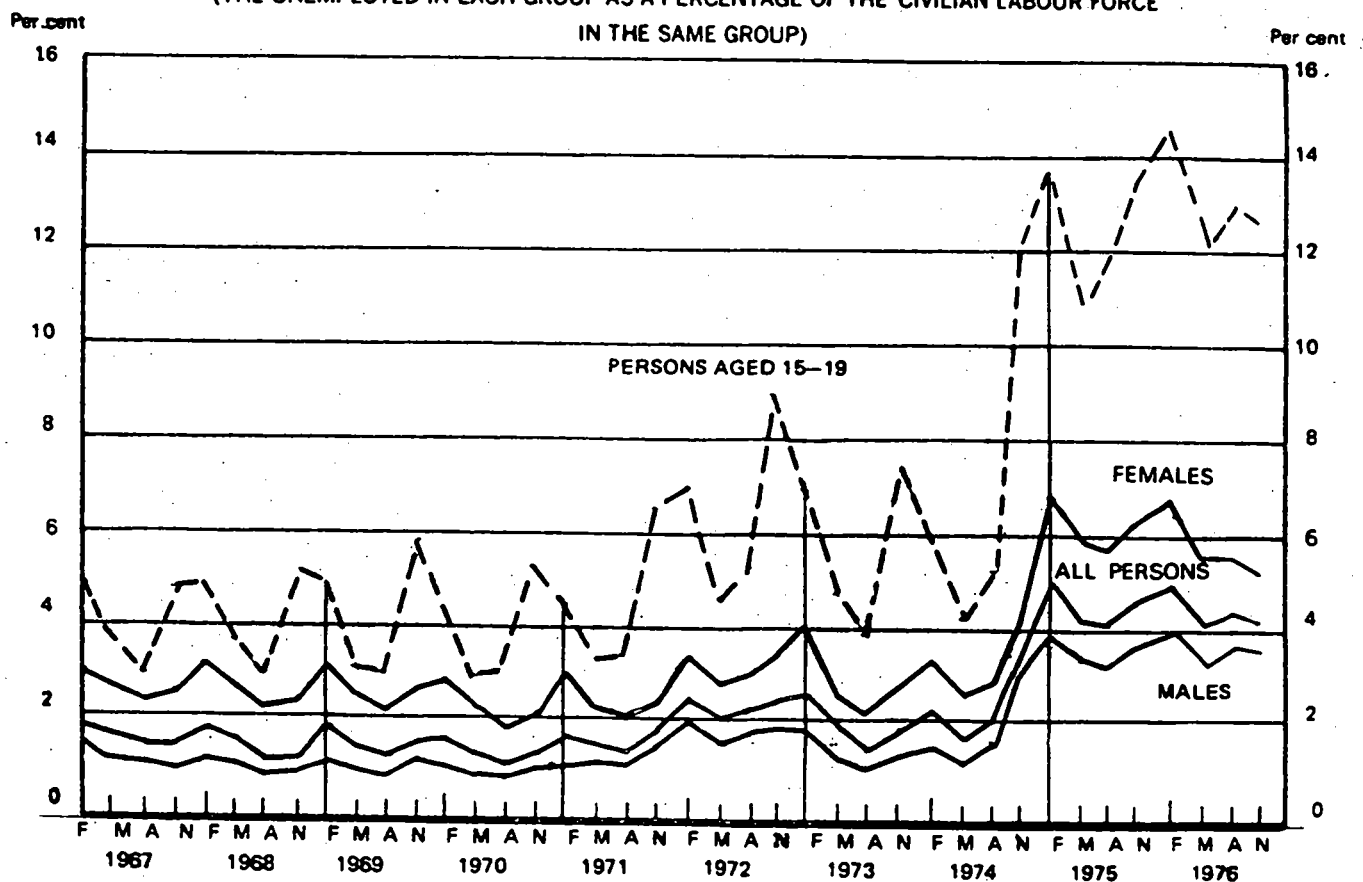


TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Month	Employed (b)			Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in labour force (b) ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
	Agri-culture ('000)	Other industries ('000)	Total ('000)	Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force (c)	Number ('000)	Per cent of population (d)		
MALES									
1975 -									
August	294.8	3,453.4	3,748.2	126.4	3.3	3,874.5	80.5	939.4	4,814.0
November (e)	294.3	3,475.0	3,769.3	139.0	3.6	3,908.3	80.7	935.1	4,843.3
1976 -									
February (f)	294.8	3,509.4	3,804.2	159.5	4.0	3,963.6	81.4	908.5	4,872.1
May	284.2	3,543.9	3,828.1	132.4	3.3	3,960.5	81.0	930.1	4,890.6
August †	282.4	3,485.0	3,767.4	146.2	3.7	3,913.6	80.0	978.6	4,892.2
November	284.4	3,526.0	3,810.4	144.2	3.6	3,954.6	80.2	974.1	4,928.7
MARRIED WOMEN									
1975 -									
August	54.8	1,191.7	1,246.5	53.7	4.1	1,300.2	40.2	1,933.5	3,233.7
November (e)	62.7	1,241.9	1,304.6	65.2	4.8	1,369.8	42.3	1,868.3	3,238.1
1976 -									
February (f)	60.1	1,226.9	1,287.0	68.7	5.1	1,355.7	41.5	1,912.3	3,268.0
May	57.1	1,230.7	1,287.8	50.9	3.8	1,338.8	41.0	1,924.4	3,263.2
August †	62.4	1,216.2	1,278.6	51.9	3.9	1,330.5	40.7	1,942.3	3,272.8
November	58.4	1,251.1	1,309.5	42.2	3.1	1,351.7	41.0	1,942.6	3,294.3
OTHER FEMALES (g)									
1975 -									
August	12.5	681.0	693.4	63.6	8.4	757.1	45.3	915.7	1,672.7
November (e)	12.1	713.2	725.3	70.3	8.8	795.6	46.7	908.3	1,703.9
1976 -									
February (f)	11.6	707.9	719.5	76.3	9.6	795.8	46.9	902.5	1,698.3
May	10.6	714.0	724.6	64.2	8.1	788.8	46.0	926.8	1,715.6
August †	9.8	691.8	701.7	66.1	8.6	767.7	44.6	955.6	1,723.4
November	8.6	701.0	709.7	68.2	8.8	777.8	44.5	969.6	1,747.4
ALL FEMALES									
1975 -									
August	67.3	1,872.7	1,939.9	117.4	5.7	2,057.3	41.9	2,849.1	4,906.4
November (e)	74.8	1,955.1	2,029.8	135.5	6.3	2,165.3	43.8	2,776.6	4,942.0
1976 -									
February (f)	71.7	1,934.8	2,006.5	145.0	6.7	2,151.5	43.3	2,814.8	4,966.3
May	67.8	1,944.7	2,012.5	115.1	5.4	2,127.6	42.7	2,851.2	4,978.8
August †	72.2	1,908.0	1,980.2	118.0	5.6	2,098.2	42.0	2,897.9	4,996.1
November	67.1	1,952.1	2,019.2	110.4	5.2	2,129.6	42.2	2,912.2	5,041.7
PERSONS									
1975 -									
August	362.1	5,326.0	5,688.1	243.8	4.1	5,931.8	61.0	3,788.6	9,720.4
November (e)	369.1	5,430.0	5,799.1	274.5	4.5	6,073.6	62.1	3,711.8	9,785.3
1976 -									
February (f)	366.5	5,444.2	5,810.6	304.5	5.0	6,115.1	62.2	3,723.3	9,838.4
May	352.0	5,488.6	5,840.6	247.6	4.1	6,088.1	61.7	3,781.3	9,869.4
August †	354.6	5,393.0	5,747.6	264.1	4.4	6,011.8	60.8	3,876.5	9,888.3
November	351.5	5,478.1	5,829.6	254.6	4.2	6,084.2	61.0	3,886.2	9,970.4

(a) For a note on persons excluded see page 2, paragraph 5. (b) For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 6 to 11. (c) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group. (d) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group (labour force participation rate). (e) The sample size was reduced for this survey. See page 3, paragraph 15 and page 18, paragraph 3. (f) See page 4, paragraph 23. (g) Never married, widowed and divorced.

TABLE 2. CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
NOVEMBER 1976

State or Territory	Employed (b)			Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in labour force (b) ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
	Agri- culture ('000)	Other industries ('000)	Total ('000)	Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force (c)	Number ('000)	Per cent of popula- tion (d)		
MALES									
New South Wales	80.6	1,260.2	1,340.8	64.4	4.6	1,405.2	79.7	357.8	1,763.0
Victoria	63.7	971.4	1,035.1	29.3	2.8	1,064.4	80.4	259.7	1,324.1
Queensland	60.0	491.5	551.5	21.7	3.8	573.2	79.4	149.0	722.2
South Australia	32.1	323.1	355.2	10.5	2.9	365.7	80.7	87.6	453.3
Western Australia	36.4	295.5	331.9	10.8	3.1	342.7	81.9	75.9	418.6
Tasmania	9.1	102.5	111.6	4.7	4.1	116.4	79.5	29.9	146.3
Northern Territory	2.4	26.5	28.9	*	*	29.6	83.4	5.9	35.5
Australian Capital Territory	*	55.2	55.2	2.2	3.8	57.4	87.4	8.3	65.7
Australia	284.4	3,526.0	3,810.4	144.2	3.6	3,954.6	80.2	974.1	4,928.7
FEMALES									
New South Wales	19.3	693.0	712.3	38.8	5.2	751.1	41.4	1,064.9	1,816.0
Victoria	15.3	553.0	568.3	28.4	4.8	596.7	43.6	772.2	1,368.9
Queensland	13.7	254.2	268.0	15.7	5.5	283.6	38.6	451.3	734.9
South Australia	8.0	187.6	195.6	10.8	5.2	206.4	44.2	260.7	467.1
Western Australia	8.3	165.7	174.1	9.5	5.2	183.5	44.9	224.9	408.4
Tasmania	2.3	52.1	54.4	3.7	6.4	58.1	39.1	90.4	148.5
Northern Territory	*	12.6	12.7	*	*	13.5	46.5	15.5	29.0
Australian Capital Territory	*	33.9	33.9	2.8	7.6	36.6	53.2	32.3	68.9
Australia	67.1	1,952.1	2,019.2	110.4	5.2	2,129.6	42.2	2,912.2	5,041.7
PERSONS									
New South Wales	99.9	1,953.3	2,053.1	103.2	4.8	2,156.4	60.3	1,422.6	3,579.0
Victoria	79.1	1,524.3	1,603.4	57.7	3.5	1,661.1	61.7	1,031.9	2,693.0
Queensland	73.8	745.7	819.5	37.4	4.4	856.8	58.8	600.3	1,457.1
South Australia	40.1	510.7	550.8	21.2	3.7	572.1	62.2	348.3	920.4
Western Australia	44.7	461.3	506.0	20.2	3.8	526.2	63.6	300.8	827.0
Tasmania	11.4	154.6	166.0	8.4	4.8	174.5	59.2	120.3	294.8
Northern Territory	2.5	39.2	41.7	*	*	43.1	66.8	21.4	64.5
Australian Capital Territory	*	89.1	89.1	4.9	5.3	94.1	69.9	40.5	134.6
Australia	351.5	5,478.1	5,829.6	254.6	4.2	6,084.2	61.0	3,886.2	9,970.4

(a)-(d) See footnotes to Table 1.

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. For an explanation of the standard error of the estimates see pages 18 and 19.



TABLE 3. CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a),  
BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES (e), NOVEMBER 1976

City	Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in labour force (b) ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
		Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force (c)	Number ('000)	Per cent of popula- tion (d)		
MALES							
Sydney	834.1	37.8	4.3	871.9	80.7	208.4	1,080.3
Melbourne	765.9	19.4	2.5	785.3	81.5	178.8	964.1
Brisbane	260.3	8.8	3.3	269.1	78.6	73.1	342.2
Adelaide	255.3	8.7	3.3	264.1	80.0	65.9	330.0
Perth	219.6	9.1	4.0	228.7	79.5	58.8	287.5
Hobart	43.6	1.9	4.1	45.5	76.6	13.9	59.4
Total	2,378.8	85.8	3.5	2,464.6	80.5	598.9	3,063.5
FEMALES							
Sydney	491.6	20.8	4.1	512.4	44.7	632.7	1,145.0
Melbourne	442.0	21.8	4.7	463.8	45.8	549.4	1,013.2
Brisbane	138.5	7.4	5.0	145.9	39.2	226.3	372.2
Adelaide	151.4	8.6	5.4	160.0	45.3	193.1	353.1
Perth	134.9	7.2	5.1	142.1	46.4	164.4	306.5
Hobart	25.7	*	*	26.7	42.8	35.8	62.5
Total	1,384.1	66.8	4.6	1,450.8	44.6	1,801.7	3,252.5
PERSONS							
Sydney	1,325.7	58.6	4.2	1,384.3	62.2	841.0	2,225.3
Melbourne	1,207.9	41.2	3.3	1,249.1	63.2	728.2	1,977.3
Brisbane	398.9	16.2	3.9	415.0	58.1	299.4	714.4
Adelaide	406.7	17.4	4.1	424.1	62.1	259.0	683.1
Perth	354.5	16.3	4.4	370.8	62.4	223.2	594.0
Hobart	69.3	2.9	4.1	72.2	59.3	49.7	121.9
Total	3,762.9	152.5	3.9	3,915.4	62.0	2,400.6	6,316.0

(a)-(d) See footnotes to Table 1. (e) The figures relate to persons residing within the boundaries of the relevant Statistical Divisions. Explanatory notes on the delimitation of urban boundaries and maps showing the boundaries of the capital city Statistical Divisions were published in *Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1971 - Census Bulletin No. 6*.

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. For an explanation of the standard errors of the estimates see pages 18 and 19.

TABLE 4. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a) : EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA  
NOVEMBER 1976

NOVEMBER 1976

Birthplace and period of arrival	Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)	
		Number ( '000)	Per cent of labour force (c)	Number ( '000)	Per cent of population (d)
MALES					
Born in Australia	2,788.9	103.3	3.6	2,892.2	80.2
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	286.6	6.2	2.1	292.8	71.0
1955 to 1961	226.8	6.9	2.9	233.7	91.3
1962 to 1967	210.1	9.9	4.5	220.0	88.8
1968 to 1974	262.8	14.3	5.2	277.1	90.6
Jan. 1975 to Nov. 1976	35.2	*	*	38.8	85.1
Total born outside Australia	1,021.5	41.0	3.9	1,062.4	83.8
MARRIED WOMEN					
Born in Australia	917.8	25.9	2.7	943.7	38.9
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	85.5	7.4	2.7	87.8	35.8
1955 to 1961	94.6			97.5	49.2
1962 to 1967	85.8			88.1	51.8
1968 to 1974	111.5	7.2	6.0	118.7	56.0
Jan. 1975 to Nov. 1976	14.2	*	*	15.9	51.2
Total born outside Australia	391.7	16.3	4.0	408.0	47.6
ALL FEMALES					
Born in Australia	1,509.0	81.7	5.1	1,590.7	41.8
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	106.8	*	*	110.0	31.0
1955 to 1961	118.5	4.6	3.7	123.1	50.1
1962 to 1967	112.9	5.9	5.0	118.8	51.9
1968 to 1974	148.4	11.2	7.0	159.6	56.4
Jan. 1975 to Nov. 1976	23.6	*	*	27.4	56.4
Total born outside Australia	510.2	28.7	5.3	538.9	46.4
PERSONS					
Born in Australia	4,297.9	184.9	4.1	4,482.9	60.5
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	393.5	9.3	2.3	402.8	52.5
1955 to 1961	345.3	11.5	3.2	356.8	71.1
1962 to 1967	322.9	15.8	4.7	338.8	71.1
1968 to 1974	411.1	25.5	5.8	436.7	74.1
Jan. 1975 to Nov. 1976	58.7	7.5	11.3	66.2	70.3
Total born outside Australia	1,531.7	69.7	4.4	1,601.3	65.9

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) For definitions see page 2, paragraphs 7 to 9. (c) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (d) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutionalised population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace or period of arrival in Australia for such persons.

\* Less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 5. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

Persons in the labour force (a) (b) ('000)									
Month	Males		Married women		All females		Total		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	
1975 -									
August	3,874.5	3,897.9	1,300.2	1,315.8	2,057.3	2,082.2	5,931.8	5,970.5	
November (c)	3,908.3	3,925.0	1,369.8	1,345.1	2,165.3	2,142.9	6,073.6	6,066.3	
1976 -									
February (d)	3,963.6	3,929.0	1,355.7	1,358.7	2,151.5	2,135.5	6,115.1	6,070.3	
May	3,960.5	3,958.6	1,338.8	1,344.4	2,127.6	2,142.3	6,088.1	6,107.0	
August †	3,913.6	3,937.5	1,330.5	1,346.6	2,098.2	2,124.3	6,011.8	6,051.7	
November	3,954.6	3,971.2	1,351.7	1,327.4	2,129.6	2,107.2	6,084.2	6,076.0	

Participation rate (a) per cent					Unemployed persons (e) (b) ('000)				
Month	Males		Females		Males		Females		Total
	Original (f)	Seasonally adjusted	Original (f)	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original Seasonally adjusted
1975 -									
August	80.5	80.9	41.9	42.3	126.4	142.2	117.4	131.7	243.8 274.1
November (c)	80.7	81.0	43.8	43.4	139.0	141.0	135.5	136.8	274.5 279.2
1976 -									
February (d)	81.4	80.8	43.3	43.1	159.5	138.0	145.0	126.4	304.5 263.2
May	81.0	80.9	42.7	43.0	132.4	142.2	115.1	122.2	247.6 263.8
August †	80.0	80.4	42.0	42.4	146.2	166.3	118.0	132.1	264.1 297.3
November	80.2	80.6	42.2	41.8	144.2	145.6	110.4	111.2	254.6 257.8

Unemployment rate (per cent) (e)(g)						
Month	Males		Females		Persons	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1975 -						
August	3.3	3.6	5.7	6.3	4.1	4.6
November (c)	3.6	3.6	6.3	6.4	4.5	4.6
1976 -						
February (d)	4.0	3.5	6.7	5.9	5.0	4.3
May	3.3	3.6	5.4	5.7	4.1	4.3
August †	3.7	4.2	5.6	6.2	4.4	4.9
November	3.6	3.7	5.2	5.3	4.2	4.2

(a) The methods used in seasonally adjusting this series are explained in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1976* (Reference No. 1.10). (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see page 2, paragraphs 7 to 9. (c) See page 2, paragraph 4 and page 18, paragraph 3. (d) See page 4, paragraph 23. (e) See page 4, paragraphs 25 to 29. (f) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group. (g) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

TABLE 6. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, NOVEMBER 1976

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Per cent of population (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	364.1	19.6	320.7	684.8	57.7	49.6	52.6	55.2
20-24	520.7	180.7	379.5	900.2	90.8	55.6	66.7	78.8
25-34	1,041.0	394.3	497.8	1,538.7	97.5	43.7	47.9	73.0
35-44	769.0	361.6	413.9	1,182.8	97.0	52.8	54.5	76.2
45-54	733.5	296.4	357.6	1,091.1	94.2	46.2	47.6	71.4
55-59	274.4	68.9	98.5	372.9	87.0	27.3	30.3	58.2
60-64	178.5	21.6	38.0	216.5	65.8	10.9	13.0	38.5
65 and over	73.6	8.6	23.5	97.1	14.8	3.4	3.4	8.1
Total	3,954.6	1,351.7	2,129.6	6,084.2	80.2	41.0	42.2	61.0

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraphs 7 to 9. (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group (labour force participation rate).

TABLE 7. LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, NOVEMBER 1976  
(Per cent)

Age group (years)	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	57.7	53.0	55.4	61.8	51.5	56.6
20-24	91.6	67.4	79.6	90.3	63.8	76.7
25-34	98.0	46.1	71.9	97.4	53.1	76.6
35-44	97.3	51.4	74.1	98.0	62.3	81.7
45-54	94.6	45.6	69.8	95.2	54.0	76.5
55-59	86.9	29.6	57.4	89.9	33.1	62.2
60-64	64.3	13.2	37.4	73.1	13.2	44.0
65 and over	16.6	3.5	8.9	13.3	4.4	8.6
Total	80.2	41.8	60.5	83.8	46.4	65.9

(a) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutionalised population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace of such persons.

TABLE 8. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY HOURS WORKED (b), NOVEMBER 1976

	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
'000 PERSONS					
Hours worked -					
0 (d)	204.9	66.7	34.4	101.0	305.9
1-15	92.2	230.2	78.2	308.3	400.5
16-29	150.5	244.1	54.8	299.0	449.5
30-34	172.4	117.4	46.7	164.1	336.4
35-39	430.8	179.5	154.3	333.8	764.6
40	1,495.8	344.3	260.4	604.6	2,100.4
41-44	193.2	29.8	33.0	62.8	256.0
45-48	301.9	27.9	22.6	50.6	352.4
49 and over	768.8	69.6	25.3	95.0	863.8
Total	3,810.4	1,309.5	709.7	2,019.2	5,829.6
Full-time workers (e)	3,632.9	754.8	572.1	1,326.9	4,959.8
Part-time workers (e)	177.5	554.7	137.6	692.3	869.8
MILLION HOURS					
Aggregate weekly hours worked (f)	154.8	38.3	23.2	61.6	216.4

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8. (b) Actual hours worked during survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, accidents and industrial disputes; and work stoppages due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Excludes persons laid off without pay for the whole of survey week; these persons are classified as unemployed. (e) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 10. (f) When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in a slight lowering of the figures.

TABLE 9. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (a) BY EMPLOYED PERSONS (b), NOVEMBER 1976

	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
Industry division or sub-division –					
Agriculture	55.9	31.2	39.1	32.2	51.4
Forestry, fishing and hunting	44.7	*	*	*	44.0
Mining	39.2	*	*	31.6	38.7
Manufacturing	39.2	33.0	35.1	33.5	37.8
Construction	39.6	21.6	30.4	22.7	38.4
Wholesale and retail trade	41.3	30.2	30.0	30.1	36.7
Transport and storage	39.9	25.3	35.6	29.0	38.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	39.2	27.6	34.3	30.7	35.4
Community services (d) (e)	39.0	28.7	34.4	30.8	33.9
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	39.4	25.4	28.3	26.5	31.9
Other industries (f)	36.0	28.9	33.9	31.1	34.7
Occupation group –					
Professional and technical (e)	39.7	29.6	35.3	31.9	36.3
Administrative, executive and managerial	46.9	40.5	38.8	40.1	46.2
Clerical	35.1	27.8	33.9	30.3	31.9
Sales	41.0	30.3	28.1	29.5	35.0
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	52.7	32.5	37.9	33.4	49.6
Transport and communication	40.6	28.8	33.9	30.4	39.3
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (g)	38.7	34.0	34.5	34.1	38.1
Service, sport and recreation	36.3	24.9	29.0	26.2	29.9
Wage and salary earners	38.4	28.9	32.6	30.3	35.4
Other (h)	51.2	31.3	36.1	31.9	46.3
Full-time workers (i)	41.8	38.6	37.2	38.0	40.8
Part-time workers (i)	16.0	16.7	14.0	16.1	16.1
Total employed	40.6	29.3	32.7	30.5	37.1

(a) Persons with jobs who did not work during survey week have been included in the calculation of average weekly hours worked. When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in a slight lowering of the average hours figures. (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Comprises health; education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (e) In May and August each year estimates are low as average hours worked by school teachers are affected by school holidays. (f) Comprises electricity, gas and water; communication and public administration and defence. (g) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers. (h) Employers, self-employed and unpaid family helpers. (i) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 10.

\* Based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 10. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS (b), BY REASON, NOVEMBER 1976 ('000)

Reason for working less than 35 hours	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
USUALLY WORK 35 HOURS OR MORE					
Leave or holiday	285.7	69.9	50.2	120.1	405.8
Own illness or injury	110.9	29.4	21.2	50.7	161.6
Bad weather, breakdown, etc.	14.2	*	*	*	15.4
Began or lost job in survey week	10.5	*	*	5.5	16.0
On short time	8.8	*	*	*	10.2
Other reasons (d)	12.4	*	*	*	13.6
Total	442.5	103.7	76.4	180.1	622.6
USUALLY WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS					
Preferred part-time work	141.6	518.7	121.4	640.1	781.7
Lack of work	26.5	21.2	10.7	31.8	58.3
Other reasons	9.4	14.8	5.5	20.3	29.8
Total	177.5	554.7	137.6	692.3	869.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8. (b) See note (b) to Table 8. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Comprises direct or indirect involvement in industrial disputes, including disputes not at place of employment.

\* Less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 11. EMPLOYED MARRIED WOMEN (a), BY INDUSTRY AND HOURS WORKED (b), NOVEMBER 1976 ('000)

Industry division or sub-division	Part-time workers (c)				Full-time workers (c)	Total
	Hours worked (b)					
	Under 16	16-29	30-34			
Agriculture	17.7	10.3	*	31.2	27.2	58.4
Manufacturing	19.7	23.4	10.0	53.1	186.7	239.8
Construction	13.9	*	*	21.7	9.2	30.9
Wholesale and retail trade	61.1	61.6	13.7	136.4	159.7	296.0
Transport and storage	8.6	*	*	11.3	14.7	26.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	23.5	15.1	6.9	45.5	63.7	109.3
Community services (d)	56.5	61.9	31.3	149.6	186.2	335.9
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	46.2	33.9	8.6	88.7	49.4	138.1
Other industries (e)	7.5	6.6	*	17.2	57.9	75.1
Total	254.8	218.8	81.1	554.7	754.8	1,309.5

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8. (b) See note (b) to Table 8. (c) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 10. (d) Comprises health; education; libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (e) Comprises forestry, fishing and hunting; mining; electricity, gas and water; communication; and public administration and defence.

\* Less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 12. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, NOVEMBER 1976

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)				Per cent of labour force (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19 -								
Looking for first job	15.3	*	15.8	31.1	..	..	..	..
Other	27.2	*	28.9	56.1	..	..	..	..
<b>Total 15-19</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>12.7</b>
20 and over -								
20-24	34.0	9.5	25.3	59.2	6.5	5.3	6.7	6.6
25-34	26.6	15.2	20.0	46.6	2.6	3.9	4.0	3.0
35-44	16.5	9.0	10.5	27.0	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.3
45-54	12.7	4.6	7.3	20.0	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.8
55 and over	11.9	*	*	14.6	2.3	*	*	2.1
<b>Total 20 and over</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>167.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>144.2</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>110.4</b>	<b>254.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 9. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

\* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 13. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, NOVEMBER 1976

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)			Per cent of labour force (b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
BORN IN AUSTRALIA						
15-19	35.4	38.0	73.3	11.2	13.6	12.3
20 and over –						
20-24	27.8	19.6	47.5	6.5	6.3	6.4
25-34	16.3	12.0	28.3	2.2	3.4	2.6
35 and over	23.8	12.1	35.8	1.7	1.9	1.7
Total 20 and over	67.9	43.7	111.6	2.6	3.3	2.9
Total	103.3	81.7	184.9	3.6	5.1	4.1
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA						
15-19	7.1	6.7	13.8	14.5	16.4	15.3
20 and over –						
20-24	6.1	5.6	11.8	6.8	8.4	7.5
25-34	10.3	8.0	18.3	3.4	5.4	4.0
35 and over	17.4	8.4	25.8	2.8	3.0	2.9
Total 20 and over	33.9	22.0	55.8	3.3	4.4	3.7
Total	41.0	28.7	69.7	3.9	5.3	4.4

(a) See note (a) to Table 12. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

TABLE 14. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS (b)  
(Per cent)

Month	State capital cities (b)			Other areas (b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1976 –						
February (c)	4.1	6.1	4.9	3.9	8.1	5.2
May	3.3	5.1	3.9	3.5	6.2	4.3
August	3.7	4.9	4.1	3.8	7.2	4.9
November	3.5	4.6	3.9	3.9	6.4	4.7

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. See note (a) to Table 12. (b) The figures relate to persons residing within the boundaries of the relevant Statistical Divisions. Explanatory notes on the delimitation of urban boundaries and maps showing the boundaries of the capital city Statistical Divisions were published in *Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1971 – Census Bulletin No. 6*. (c) See page 4, paragraph 23.

TABLE 15. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, NOVEMBER 1976  
(Per cent)

Industry division or sub-division (b)	Unemployment rate	Occupation group (c)	Unemployment rate
Agriculture	3.1	Professional and technical	1.4
Manufacturing	4.6	Administrative, executive and managerial	*
Food, beverages and tobacco	5.5	Clerical	2.8
Metal products	5.0	Sales	4.6
Other manufacturing	4.3	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	3.3
Construction	5.1	Transport and communication	3.4
Wholesale and retail trade	4.2	Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (g)	5.0
Transport and storage	2.8	Service, sport and recreation	4.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	2.0		
Community services (d)	2.0		
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	5.6		
Other industries (e)	2.0		
Total (f)	4.2	Total (f)	4.2

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in same group. See note (a) to Table 12. (b) Based on industry of last job. (c) Based on occupation of last job. (d) See note (d) to Table 11. (e) See note (e) to Table 11. (f) Includes those looking for their first job. (g) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers.

\* Based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 16. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), BY AGE, ETC., NOVEMBER 1976

Duration of unemployment (b)	Age (years)		Married	Not married (c)	Looking for -		Total
	15-19	20 and over			Full-time work (d)	Part-time work (e)	
MALES							
Number unemployed ('000) -							
Under 2 weeks	4.5	6.0	*	6.9	8.5	4.7	10.6
2 and under 4 weeks	9.7	17.3	7.0	20.1	24.5		27.1
4 and under 8 weeks	7.1	18.7	10.1	15.7	24.2	6.2	25.8
8 and under 13 weeks	7.1	14.9	6.5	15.6	20.2		22.0
13 and under 26 weeks	5.9	18.9	7.4	17.5	24.3		24.8
26 weeks and over	8.1	25.9	14.1	19.9	31.7		34.0
Total	42.5	101.8	48.6	95.6	133.4	10.9	144.2
Average duration of unemployment (f) (weeks)	14.5	19.2	20.2	16.6	18.1	13.4	17.8
FEMALES							
Number unemployed ('000) -							
Under 2 weeks	4.2	6.5	4.8	6.0	6.8	4.0	10.8
2 and under 4 weeks	8.5	12.0	8.4	12.1	13.9	6.6	20.5
4 and under 8 weeks	7.6	11.8	8.3	11.1	12.6	6.8	19.4
8 and under 13 weeks	5.9	12.1	7.0	10.9	13.5	4.5	18.0
13 and under 26 weeks	7.0	8.3	4.7	10.6	12.8	*	15.3
26 weeks and over	11.5	14.9	9.1	17.3	20.6	5.7	26.4
Total	44.7	65.6	42.2	68.2	80.3	30.1	110.4
Average duration of unemployment (f) (weeks)	18.4	16.6	15.3	18.6	18.4	14.6	17.3
PERSONS							
Number unemployed ('000) -							
Under 2 weeks	8.8	12.6	8.4	12.9	15.3	6.0	21.3
2 and under 4 weeks	18.2	29.4	15.3	32.3	38.4	9.2	47.6
4 and under 8 weeks	14.7	30.5	18.4	26.8	36.8	8.4	45.2
8 and under 13 weeks	13.0	27.0	13.5	26.5	33.7	6.3	40.0
13 and under 26 weeks	12.9	27.2	12.0	28.1	37.2	*	40.1
26 weeks and over	19.6	40.8	23.1	37.2	52.3	8.0	60.4
Total	87.2	167.4	90.8	163.8	213.7	40.9	254.6
Average duration of unemployment (f) (weeks)	16.5	18.1	17.9	17.4	18.2	14.2	17.6

(a) See note (a) to Table 12. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of survey week. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs. (f) Periods of unemployment are recorded only in completed weeks; this procedure results in a slight lowering of the figures shown for average duration of unemployment.

\* Less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.



**TABLE 17. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK AND LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK, NOVEMBER 1976**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (b)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Looking for full-time work (c) –					
Number ('000)	133.4	21.7	58.6	80.3	213.7
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	3.5	2.8	9.3	5.7	4.1
Looking for part-time work (e) –					
Number ('000)	10.9	20.5	9.6	30.1	40.9
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	5.8	3.6	6.5	4.2	4.5

(a) See note (a) to Table 12. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (d) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs.

**TABLE 18. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b) NOVEMBER 1976 ('000)**

<i>Industry division or sub-division (c)</i>	<i>Number unemployed</i>	<i>Occupation group (d)</i>	<i>Number unemployed</i>
Agriculture	11.3	Professional and technical	10.6
Manufacturing	61.0	Administrative, executive and managerial	*
Under 2 weeks	4.3	Clerical	28.8
2 and under 4 weeks	12.1	Under 4 weeks	7.5
4 and under 8 weeks	9.6	4 and under 8 weeks	6.2
8 and under 13 weeks	7.6	8 and under 26 weeks	8.4
13 and under 26 weeks	10.5	26 weeks and over	6.7
26 weeks and over	16.8	Sales	24.6
Construction	26.6	Under 4 weeks	8.6
Under 4 weeks	5.1	4 and under 8 weeks	5.4
4 and under 8 weeks	5.5	8 and under 26 weeks	6.6
8 and under 26 weeks	8.3	26 weeks and over	4.1
26 weeks and over	7.7	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	13.7
Wholesale and retail trade	51.3	Transport and communication	11.9
Under 2 weeks	4.6	Tradesmen, production process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (f)	99.4
2 and under 4 weeks	10.4	Under 2 weeks	6.1
4 and under 8 weeks	10.9	2 and under 4 weeks	17.8
8 and under 13 weeks	9.3	4 and under 8 weeks	16.2
13 and under 26 weeks	6.0	8 and under 13 weeks	15.9
26 weeks and over	10.2	13 and under 26 weeks	16.0
Transport and storage	9.1	26 weeks and over	27.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	9.2	Service, sport and recreation	27.2
Community services (e)	17.5	Under 4 weeks	8.4
Under 4 weeks	5.7	4 and under 8 weeks	4.2
4 and under 13 weeks	6.4	8 and under 13 weeks	4.1
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	21.9	13 and under 26 weeks	4.4
Under 4 weeks	6.5	26 weeks and over	6.1
4 and under 13 weeks	6.8	Looking for first job	34.9
13 and under 26 weeks	4.1	Under 4 weeks	10.1
26 weeks and over	4.5	4 and under 8 weeks	6.1
Other industries (g)	11.7	8 and under 13 weeks	4.7
Looking for first job	34.9	13 and under 26 weeks	5.3
		26 weeks and over	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>254.6</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>254.6</b>

(a) See note (a) to Table 12. (b) Duration of unemployment is not available for all industry or occupational groups because of high standard errors of the estimates. See footnote (b) to Table 16. (c) See note (b) to Table 15. (d) See note (c) to Table 15. (e) See note (d) to Table 11. (f) See note (g) to Table 15. (g) See note (e) to Table 11.

\*Less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE 19. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE (a), BY MAJOR ACTIVITY  
(000)

Month	Kept house.	Went to school, etc.	Retired or voluntarily inactive	Permanently unable to work	Institutionalised (b)	Total
MALES						
1975 -						
August	9.8	297.2	528.5	39.9	64.0	939.4
November (d)	10.8	304.9	507.7	50.0	61.8	935.1
1976 -						
February (e)	12.9	244.0	547.9	47.1	56.5	908.5
May	12.5	269.2	548.5	44.0	55.9	930.1
August †	12.1	297.8	578.7	37.8	52.3	978.6
November	11.9	293.9	576.8	36.2	55.4	974.1
MARRIED WOMEN						
1975 -						
August	1,872.9	8.9	33.4	4.5	13.8	1,933.5
November (d)	1,810.1	8.9	28.4	7.2	13.7	1,868.3
1976 -						
February (e)	1,857.7	8.7	29.3	6.3	10.2	1,912.3
May	1,867.1	12.2	30.9	5.3	8.8	1,924.4
August †	1,878.9	10.5	34.7	5.5	12.8	1,942.3
November	1,879.6	10.0	36.7	*	12.5	1,942.6
OTHER FEMALES (c)						
1975 -						
August	452.3	244.5	127.0	14.0	77.9	915.7
November (d)	445.4	252.5	118.6	15.9	75.9	908.3
1976 -						
February (e)	485.5	218.7	124.9	15.2	58.2	902.5
May	492.3	246.6	108.1	13.8	65.9	926.8
August †	495.0	271.1	118.9	8.1	62.5	955.6
November	494.4	273.9	129.0	8.9	63.4	969.6
ALL FEMALES						
1975 -						
August	2,325.2	253.4	160.3	18.5	91.7	2,849.1
November (d)	2,255.4	261.4	147.0	23.2	89.6	2,776.6
1976 -						
February (e)	2,343.3	227.5	154.2	21.5	68.3	2,814.8
May	2,359.4	258.8	139.1	19.2	74.7	2,851.2
August †	2,373.9	281.7	153.5	13.6	75.3	2,897.9
November	2,374.0	283.9	165.7	12.6	75.9	2,912.2
PERSONS						
1975 -						
August	2,335.0	550.7	688.8	58.4	155.7	3,788.6
November (d)	2,266.3	566.4	654.6	73.1	151.4	3,711.8
1976 -						
February (e)	2,356.2	471.5	702.1	68.6	124.9	3,723.3
May	2,371.9	528.0	687.5	63.2	130.6	3,781.3
August †	2,385.9	579.4	732.2	51.4	127.5	3,876.5
November	2,385.9	577.8	742.5	48.8	131.3	3,886.2

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 11. (b) Comprises inmates of gaols, patients in hospitals, sanatoria, etc., for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) See note (e) to Table 1. (e) See page 4, paragraph 23.

\* Less than 4,000. See page 18, paragraph 7.

## TECHNICAL NOTE

### Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

### Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population, was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. Standard errors for general application are given in Table A on page 19. It should be noted that due to the reduction in the sample size for November 1975, standard errors for estimates for that quarter are approximately 15 per cent higher than those shown in the table on page 19. For further details see the Technical Note of the November 1975 issue of this bulletin. The figures in Table A will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of Table A is as follows: if the estimate for Australia obtained from the sample is 100,000 the standard error is 3,000; i.e. there are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

4. The quarter-to-quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. An indication of the magnitude of standard errors of quarter-to-quarter change in the Australian estimates is given in Table B on page 19. The estimates of standard error of quarter-to-quarter change apply only to estimates of change between two

consecutive quarters. Changes between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive quarters, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in Table B. Furthermore, changes during the period February to November 1972 will have greater standard error than indicated in Table B, because of the introduction of the revised sample. An example of the use of Table B is as follows: if the estimates for Australia for two successive quarters are 500,000 and 520,000 then from Table A it can be seen that the standard errors of these two estimates are of the order of 6,000 and from Table B that the standard error of the quarter-to-quarter change is 5,000. That is, there are about two chances in three that the quarter-to-quarter change lies between 15,000 and 25,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it lies between 10,000 and 30,000.

5. The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.

6. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the percent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from Table A.

7. As the standard errors in Table A show, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates below the levels shown in Table A have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

8. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

TABLE A  
STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W. No.	Vic. No.	Qld No.	S.A. No.	W.A. No.	Tas. No.	N.T. No.	A.C.T. No.	Australia	
									No.	Per cent of estimate
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	800	700	400	650	800	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	1,100	1,000	400	900	1,050	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	1,300	1,500	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	600		2,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000				4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	3,200	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000							8,000	0.8
2,000,000									10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see page 18, paragraph 7.

TABLE B  
STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF  
QUARTER-TO-QUARTER CHANGE : AUSTRALIA  
(Persons)

Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change	Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change
1,000	1,300	5,000	4,700
2,000	2,500	6,000	5,000
3,000	3,600	7,000	5,200
4,000	4,300	8,000	5,300

## POPULATION SURVEY REPORTS

Although emphasis in the population survey is placed on the regular collection, each quarter, of data on demographic and labour force characteristics, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. The results of these surveys are published separately. Copies of the following publications are available free on request.

<i>Title</i>	<i>Reference No.</i>
Annual Leave, August 1974	6.45
Assisted and Unassisted Migrants, August 1972	17.9
Australian Ex-service Personnel, Survey of, November 1966	15.1
Ex-service Personnel, Widows and Children, November 1971	15.1
Child Care –	
May 1969; May 1973	17.2
Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments –	
May 1968; May 1974	17.3
Family Status and Employment Status of the Population, November 1974 and November 1975	6.55
Frequency of Pay –	
August 1974; August 1976	6.46
Income Distribution, 1968-69 (Consolidated and Revised Edition)	17.17
Income Distribution, 1973-74 –	
Part I	17.6
Families (Preliminary)	17.27
Internal Migration –	
1969-70 to 1972-73 (annually); Twelve months ended April 1972, 1973 and 1974; December 1974	4.26
Job Tenure –	
February 1974; February 1975; August 1976	6.44
Journey to Work and Journey to School –	
May 1970; August 1974	17.5
Labour Force Experience –	
During 1968; During 1972; During 1974; During 1975	6.26
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, November 1974	6.57
Labour Mobility –	
November 1972; February 1975; February 1976	6.43
Leavers from Schools, Universities and Other Educational Institutions, Survey of –	
February 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967	S.B. 679
February 1968, 1969 and 1970; February 1971 to February 1974 (Annually);	
May 1975; May 1976	6.9
Multiple Jobholding –	
November 1965	S.B. 465
August 1966	S.B. 564
August 1967; May 1971; August 1973; August 1975	6.10
Non-School Study Courses, Survey of, August 1968	13.11
Persons Covered by Hospital and Medical Expenditure Assistance Schemes, August 1972	17.10
Persons Aged 15 to 64 years: Employment Status and Period Since Leaving School, May 1976	6.62
Persons Aged 15 to 64 Years Who Were Not in the Labour Force, November 1975	6.59
Persons looking for work –	
May 1976	6.60
November 1976 (Preliminary)	6.56
School Leavers, 1970 to 1974 : Their Employment Status and Education Experience in May 1975	6.53
Superannuation, Survey of –	
Victoria, May 1968	6.19
February 1974	6.42
The Labour Force: Country of Birth and Period of Residence, February 1972	6.31
Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) –	
August 1975	6.51
August 1976 (Preliminary)	6.50